

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/19227

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : G06F 17/60

US CL : 705/26

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 705/1, 14, 26, 27; 395/200.47, 200.49; 230/375, 376

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Please See Extra Sheet.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,654,482 A (DEANGELIS) 31 MARCH 1987, see col. 6, lines 54-63	72
X	US 5,483,052 A (SMITH, III ET AL.) 09 JANUARY 1996, see col. 1	72
X,P	US 5,592,378 A (CAMERON ET AL.) 07 JANUARY 1997, see Fig. 2, cols. 2-3	114-116
A,P	US 5,612,527 A (OVADIA) 18 MARCH 1997, see Fig. 2, col. 5	72
X,E	US 5,715,444 A (DANISH ET AL.) 03 FEBRUARY 1998, see cols. 1-3, 5-19	114-116

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* "A"	Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	* "T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
* "E"	earlier document published on or after the international filing date	* "X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
* "L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	* "Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
* "O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
* "P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	* "A"	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 FEBRUARY 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

20 MAR 1998

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X,L	US 5,719,828 A (HAAS ET AL.) 17 FEBRUARY 1998, see Fig. 9, cols. 10-11	70-71

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Please See Extra Sheet.

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

APS, DIALOG:

barcode, upc, product code, product number, uri, resource locator, web, internet, browser, trademark, brochure, ticket, kiosk

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claims 1-69, 73-113, and 117-123, drawn to methods and systems for searching the Internet for product information based on universal product number or trademark information.

Group II, claims 70-72, drawn to printed matter bearing a universal product number.

Group III, claims 114-116, drawn to management subsystem comprising a computer-product directory.

The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The invention of Group I is concerned with searching the Internet for product information based on a universal product number, but does not require the printed matter of the invention of Group II. The invention of Group II requires only the printed matter with a number printed thereon and does not require the searching methods and systems defined by the claims in Group I.

The inventions listed as Groups I and III do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The invention of Group I is concerned with searching the Internet for product information based on a universal product number, but does not require the management subsystem and consumer-product directory of the invention of Group III. The invention of Group III requires only the management subsystem and consumer-product directory and does not require the searching methods and systems defined by the claims in Group I.

The inventions listed as Groups II and III do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The invention of Group II requires only the printed matter with a number printed thereon and does not require the management subsystem and consumer-product directory of the invention of Group III. The invention of Group III requires only the management subsystem and consumer-product directory and does not require the printed matter of Group II.